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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/406,721

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HIROSHI SATOMI

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06/03/2004

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EXAMINER

DASTOURI, MEHRDAD

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2623

DATE MAILED: 06/03/2004

92

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/406,721

Applicant(s)

SATOMI, HIROSHI

Examiner

Mehrdad Dastouri

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 May 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,5-8,11-15,18 and 19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,5-8,11-15,18 and 19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on May 10, 2004 has been entered.

Response to Amendment

2. Applicant's amendment filed May 10, 2004, has been entered and made of record.

3. Applicant's arguments have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. It is submitted that prior arts of record (Watanabe et al and Ogura et al) do not teach away from the new limitation recited in the claims concerning rearrangement means for rearranging the overflow character data in another display area specified by the user. Prior arts of record teach different manipulation of overflow character data including deletion as one of the option. In another option, the overflow characters are stored in a separate memory (overflow memory) and moved to the next line as specified by the user (Ogura et al; Column 14, Lines 22-46).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1, 2, 5-8, 11-15, 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Watanabe et al (U.S. Patent Application 2002/0015167) in view of Ogura et al (U.S. 5,559,934).

Regarding Claim 1, Watanabe et al disclose a character processing apparatus comprising:

first storage means for storing information relating to an area for displaying character data (Figure 1, ROM 22, Paragraphs 0155-0157; Figure 5; Page 3, Paragraph 0028/0029; Figure 14; Figure 15, Step 1102; Page 12, Paragraphs 0157 and 0160.

The information related to the allowable number of characters will be stored in a predetermined buffer);

second storage means for storing character data in association with the area for displaying character data (Figure 1, RAM 23, Paragraph 0086; Figure 5; Page 3, Paragraph 0028/0029; Figure 15, Step 1105; Page 12, Paragraphs 0161);

arrangement means for arranging the character data stored in said second storage means in a display area created in accordance with the information stored in said first storage means (Figure 5; Page 3, Paragraph 0028/0029; Figure 15, Steps 1104 and 1105; Page 12, Paragraphs 0161);

display means for displaying the character data which can be arranged in the display area by said arrangement means, wherein overflow character data which can not be arranged in the display area by said arrangement means is not displayed by said

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display means (Figure 1, Display Unit 33; Figure 5; Page 6, Paragraphs 0079-0082; Figures 179a) through 17(e); Paragraphs 0170-0172. As depicted in Figure 17(e), the overflow character is deleted and is not shown.);

judgment means for judging whether a user has selected a predetermined designation to the display area in a case where overflow character data is present, wherein selection of the predetermined designation for display area is not allowed in a case where overflow character data is not present (Figures 8-12 (in particular Figures 10(C) and 11 (C); Pages 8-9, Paragraphs 0115-0128. Based on predetermined designation, only in a case where overflow character data is present, the overflow characters will be divided and displayed in two lines.); and

control means for carrying out control in such a way that character data which can not be displayed in the display area is displayed in a different manner when said judgment means judges that the predetermined designation is selected (Figures 5 and 15; Paragraph 0161, Lines 17-23. As depicted in Figure 15, in Step 1106, overflow characters are recognized, and in Step 1108, overflow characters (stored in display buffer) will be displayed).

Watanabe et al disclose the number of inputted characters exceeding an allowable number of characters (overflow characters), the area for displaying characters, and the inputted characters are stored in different display buffer in the ROM 22 and RAM 23 (Paragraphs 0085, 0086, 0161 and 0167).

Watanabe et al do not explicitly disclose moving the character data that cannot be displayed to different storage means (third storage means) and rearranging the

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overflow character data stored in said third storage means in another display area specified by the user.

Ogura et al disclose a label printing apparatus and wordprocessor comprising: control means for carrying out control in such a way that overflow character data which can not be displayed in the display area is moved to third storage means for storing overflow character data when a judgment means judges that the predetermined designation is selected for display area in which overflow character data is present (Figures 16 and 17; Column 14, Lines 1-18; Column 14, Lines 35-46) and rearranging the overflow character data stored in said third storage means in another display area specified by the user (Column 14, Lines 22-46. The overflow characters stored in overflow memory are fed to the next line (another display area) by the user.).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Watanabe et al invention according to the teachings of Ogura et al to move the character data that can not be displayed to third storage means from second storage means because it is a well known procedure routinely implemented in the art that will provide optimal character storage and retrieval and will increase flexibility of the data management system.

Regarding Claim 2, Watanabe et al further disclose a character processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein when overflow character data which cannot be displayed in the display area exists, said display means displays a mark to report that the non-displayed overflow character data exists (Figure 5; Page 3, Paragraph 0028;

Page 12, Paragraph 0161; Figure 17(b); Paragraph 00170. Overflow characters are displayed with plex.).

Regarding Claim 5, Watanabe et al further disclose a character processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said display means display the character data arranged in the displayed area and a frame representing the display area (Figures 5,15 and 16; Page 3, Paragraph 0028; Page 12, Paragraph 0161).

Regarding Claim 6, Watanabe et al further disclose a character processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said arrangement means arranges the character data in accordance with a format which is decided for every area (Figure 5; Page 6, Paragraphs 0079-0082).

With regards to Claims 7, 13 and 14, arguments analogous to those presented for Claim 1 are applicable to Claims 7, 13 and 14.

With regards to Claims 8 and 15, arguments analogous to those presented for Claim 2 are applicable to Claims 8 and 15.

With regards to Claims 11 and 18, arguments analogous to those presented for Claim 5 are applicable to Claims 11 and 18.

With regards to Claims 12 and 19, arguments analogous to those presented for Claim 6 are applicable to Claims 12 and 19.

Contact Information

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mehrdad Dastouri whose telephone number is (703)

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305-2438. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amelia Au can be reached on (703) 308-6604. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MEHRDAD DASTOURI
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Mehrdad Dastouri

Mehrdad Dastouri
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2623
May 27, 2004